

Claims

1. A luminous turning button for an electric circuit, comprising a handle (20) that is mounted so as to pivot about an axis (X) to actuate at least one electric switch unit (12) and is illuminated by a light source (S) substantially disposed along the axis (X), the handle (20) comprising a cap (22) forming a disk (22B) and a gripping tab (22A) that protrudes in a diametral plane, characterized in that the cap (21) is made of translucent or transparent material capable of allowing the light to travel to the outside, the gripping tab (22A) being hollow and that it covers an integrated mechanical base (21) made of opaque and mechanically strong material.
2. The turning button as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it comprises, in the handle, a light guide (30) conducting the light from the source (S) from beneath the base (21) to the hollow space (23) of the tab (22A).
3. The luminous turning button as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the mechanical base (21), of generally annular shape, has on the underside at least one actuation member (25) interacting with a mechanism (40).
4. The luminous turning button as claimed in claim 1 or 2 or 3, characterized in that the light guide (30) has a light entrance face (37), traverses the annular-shaped base (21) via a central orifice (26) aligned with the axis (X) and has a light emitter (31) in the hollow internal space (23) of the tab in order to diffuse the light to the sides.
5. The luminous turning button as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the light emitter (31) housed in the hollow space of the tab is shaped like a prism (32) and receives the light from a light entrance unit (34) attached to the bottom of the handle.

6. The luminous turning button as claimed in claim 3 or 4 or 5, characterized in that the light guide (30) is housed in the handle while being attached by interlocking or snap-fitting in a sealed manner to the handle, the light emitter itself being housed in a sealed manner in the hollow space of the tab.
7. The luminous turning button as claimed in claim 1 or 2 or 3, characterized in that the handle comprises a gripping tab (22A), an angular position display pointer (27) made of the same material as the mechanical base (21) and molded together therewith.
8. The luminous turning button as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the pointer (27) is in the general shape of an L.
9. The luminous turning button as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, characterized in that the handle (20) is made by double injection of the material of the base (21) and of the material of the external cap (22).
10. The luminous turning button as claimed in claim 1 or 2 or 3, characterized in that the handle (20) is fixedly attached to a tubular rotary actuator (50) whose central bore allows the light beam originating from the source (S) to pass through and that is provided with cam shapes (52) acting on at least one electric unit control cursor (71, 72).
11. The luminous turning button as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the tubular rotary actuator (50) comprises a tubular portion that is snap-fitted close to one end onto a central collar (22) of the handle (20) and comprises at the other end the cam shapes (52) to move the cursors.
12. The luminous turning button as claimed in claim 10 or 11, characterized in that it houses at the bottom a bowl made in

the flange (80), itself housing the handle, a seal (60) that has a lip (61) pressing against the tubular actuator (50).

13. The luminous turning button as claimed in claim 12,
5 characterized in that the seal (60) is stiffened by means of a reinforcement (63).

14. The luminous turning button as claimed in claim 1 or 2 or 3,
10 characterized in that the gripping tab (22) is made of colorless translucent or transparent material, the color of the light emitted by the source (S) and transmitted to the gripping tab being correlated with that of the material of the mechanical base (21).